

THE WORDS OF A FIGHTER.

The forthcoming book of Gen. Grant—Some Extracts of an Interesting Character.

The New York Commercial Advertiser publishes near a page of extracts from Gen. Grant's "Personal Memoirs" which will be published within a few months.

The volume is completed and the second nearly so. Extracts given show the work to be written in sturdy and terse Anglo-Saxon, with here and there a touch of quiet humor.

The dedication is in the form of a general's manuscript as follows: "These volumes are dedicated to the American soldier and sailor; U. S. Grant, New York, May 23, 1885."

He begins by saying that he is of American stock on both sides for many generations.

Matthew Grant, from whom he is a descendant in the eighth generation, reached Dorchester, Mass., in 1630, from Dorchester, England.

His great grandfather, Noah, had a commission in the British army and his grandfather, also named Noah, served in the war of the rebellion.

He gives an account of his boyhood, of his appointment to West Point through the influence of Hon. Thomas Morris, congressman from Ohio, tells the circumstances under which he first saw Gen. Scott.

Van Buren; contrasts the personal characteristics of Generals Scott and Taylor, gives a copy of his letter to Adjutant-General Thomas, dated Galena, Illinois, May 24, 1861, offering his services to the United States, and suggesting that he considered himself competent enough to take command of a regiment.

This letter was never replied to, and was for a long time lost among the papers of the war office. Speaking of his first battle in the civil war he says, "as we approached the brow of the hill from which it was expected we would see Harris' camp, and possibly find his men ready formed to meet us, my heart kept getting higher and higher, until it felt to me as though it was in my throat. I would have given anything then to have been back in the rear, but I had not the moral courage to halt and consider what to do. I kept right on. When we reached a point from which the valley below was in full view, I halted. The place where Harris had been encamped a few days before was still there, and marks of a recent encampment were plainly visible, but the troops were gone. It seemed to me at once that Harris had been as much afraid of me as I had been of him. This was a view of the question I had never taken before, but it was one I never forgot. From that day to the close of the war I never experienced trepidation upon confronting an enemy."

He speaks of the battle of Fort Donelson at some length. Of the battle of Shiloh he says he considered the situation as one in which the federal forces were on the offensive, but as risks that no precautions for defense were neglected. On this subject he continues as follows:

General Beauregard was next in rank to Johnson, and succeeded to the command, while I remained until the close of the battle and during the subsequent retreat on Corinth, as well as in the siege of that place. His tactics have been severely criticised by the confederate writers, but I do not believe his fallen chief could have done any better under the circumstances.

Some of these critics claim that Shiloh was won when Johnson fell; that if he had not fallen the army under me would have been whipped. "His" defeated the confederates at Shiloh. There is little doubt that he should have been disgracefully beaten if the shells and bullets fired by us had passed harmlessly over the enemy, and if all of them had taken effect. Commanding generals are liable to be killed during engagements, and the fact that when he was shot Johnson was leading a brigade to induce it to make a charge which had been repeatedly ordered, is evidence that there was no universal knowledge of his demoralization on our side or the unbounded confidence on theirs which has been claimed. There was, in fact, no hour during the day when I doubted the eventual defeat of the enemy, although I was unwilling to believe that reinforcements so near at hand did not arrive at an early hour." In this connection he refers to the article in the Century and his remarks in it in regard to General McCook, which caused so much public comment. He tells of the long march of the day before over muddy roads by General McCook's division, of its "conspicuous acts of gallantry" on the day of battle and concludes in the Century, "I refer to these circumstances with minuteness because I did General McCook an injustice in my article in the Century, though not to the extent one would suppose from the public press. I am not willing to admit an injustice, and if convinced that I have done one I am always willing to make the fullest admission." Then follows accounts of the siege and capture of Vicksburg, of his appointment as lieutenant-general, and he adds: "In my first interview with Mr. Lincoln, alone, he stated to me that he had never professed to be a military man, or to know how campaigns should be conducted, and never wanted to interfere with them, but the procrastination on the part of commanders, and the pressure of the people at the north and congress, which, like the poor, he had always with him," had forced him into the position of commander in chief of exclusive orders." He did not know but they were all wrong. He wanted some one to take the responsibility and act.

Grant estimates Lee's strength at 50,000 in the Wilderness, all familiar with the country, which to the federal forces was wholly unknown. He explains the theory of Lee's surrender taking place under an apple tree, and describes at length the scene and his feelings at that time. He says he felt like anything rather than rejoicing at the downfall of a foe that had fought so long and gallantly.

THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT.

Miscellaneous Matters of Interest at the National Capital.

The secretary of the treasury has issued an order repealing the existing regulations governing the importation and disinfection of rags. Although the government will in no way regulate the introduction of rags after this date, collectors of customs are instructed to enforce the state or city laws on the subject, or the orders of health authorities at ports of entry.

Commissioner Sparks has addressed a letter to Secretary Lamar requesting him to call upon the attorney-general to institute legal proceedings to set aside the Maxwell grant in New Mexico, upon allegations of fraud. This grant is now owned by a Dutch syndicate, which purchased of an English company, which derived its title from ex-Senator Chace and other Americans. It comprises nearly 2,000,000 acres, and Commissioner Sparks alleges that the original Spanish grant covered only about 1,000,000 acres, and all the rest is a grand rape of the public domain.

The president has appointed William Stapleton, of Colorado, to be smelter of the United States mint at Denver, Col.

The president has appointed Geo. Wilson, of Peoria, Ill., to become collector of internal revenue for the Fifth district of Illinois, vice Howard Knowles, suspended.

Creemery Owners in Convention.

At Parsons, Kan., creamery owners and superintendents of Missouri and Kansas met in convention and organized the Kansas and Missouri creamery association, electing J. H. Wardin, of Nevada, Missouri, president; F. G. O. Howard, of Kansas, secretary, and W. C. King, of Parsons, treasurer, and adjourned to meet in Kansas City on the call of executive committee. The creameries were well represented and entire harmony prevailed. It is the intention of the association to establish in Kansas City a weekly board of trade of the sale of public money not in fact required for the use for which it was appropriated, mostly because an act of congress gave the license.

The net debt of the United States has now gone below \$1,500,000,000 for the first time since the war. Twenty years ago it was \$2,700,000,000.

GOVERNMENT LAND GOBBLED.

Enough Acres Stolen to Make a Good Sized State.

Commissioner Sparks, of the land office has submitted to Secretary Lamar his report upon the famous Maxwell land grant in New Mexico, for which nearly 2,000,000 acres of public land grants were claimed and patented in 1879. The official proceedings leading up to the patent are recited in detail by the commissioner, who then says in brief: "Pending these proceedings a large number of letters, complaints, petitions, protests and charges were transmitted to this office and the department from the citizens of New Mexico, alleging fraud in the location of boundaries of this claim, and extension far beyond any original claim or possession by the grantee; the invasion of settlement and mining rights of native inhabitants and Indian occupants. Nothing more than a mere formal notice of these various complaints and allegations appears to have been taken or done by this office."

No investigation was had, but claims for this enormous region of country appears to have been carried through the office without regard to the interests of the government or the rights of the citizens of the territory in actual occupancy of the land. Evidences of fraud were manifest in the bold face of the presentation of a claim for nearly 2,000,000 acres based upon a grant of less than 1,000,000 acres. Grants by Mexican authorities were governed by the laws of the nation. Colonization grants were limited in quantity to eleven leagues or about 48,000 acres to each person. Boundaries of the localities mentioned in the applications for grants are usually of a most general character. In the present case those boundaries might have been found or alleged to be found at the most diverse points. The alleged making of boundaries under pursuit of settlement and mining rights in actual occupancy of the land, of an undoubted character, easily removed and liable to early destruction from natural and other causes. Nothing was easier than to find such alleged monuments wherever they were desired, in the so-called adjudication of this case boundaries were claimed and the monuments associated by interested parties. They were accepted as the actual boundaries and monuments of the grant, which was thus swollen from little over four townships at most to more than seventy townships of public land.

Commissioner Sparks recommends that suit be taken before looking to the rigorous prosecution of the suit, now pending in the district court of Colorado, and that a new suit be commenced in New Mexico, where the greater part of the lands lie, to set apart the patents already issued under this grant.

CHARITIES AND CORRECTIONS.

Some of the Topics Discussed in the Convention at Washington.

In the convention of Charities and Corrections at Washington, the regular order was taken up, and Hon. W. P. Letchworth, of New York, chairman of the committee on prevention of work among children, read the report of the committee. Mr. William Harris, of Concord, Mass., read a paper entitled "Compulsory Education," in which statistics were cited voluminously. Compulsory education, he held, was a valuable means to the desired end. Miss Phoebe Cousins read a paper on kindergarten, prepared for the conference by Mrs. Sarah B. Cooper, of California. It held that the power of early training and habit was not easily over-estimated. Changes of habits were generally too small to be felt until they were too strong to be broken. The afternoon session was devoted to the further consideration of the subject of the morning and several interesting papers. Among them was one on "Dependent young children in families and institutions," prepared by Mrs. Clara T. Lofgren, of Massachusetts. The speaker, who is a member of the Massachusetts board of health, lunacy and charity, found that the safeguard thrown by society around the virtue of women would be weakened by any provisions which would relieve unmarried mothers from the penalties of their action and care of their offspring. She condemned the policy of separating unmarried mothers from their children as injurious both to the mothers and children. Mrs. Spencer, who read this paper, said she was so wrought upon by what it did not say that she could not keep silent. She would have supposed that the distinguished author had been reared in France, where chivalry demanded that the father of an illegitimate child shall not be discovered. She noticed, from beginning to end of the paper, how very carefully the discovery of the father was guarded against by the excellent women of Massachusetts. She believed that the sentiment of the women of District of Columbia was largely in favor of holding the father responsible for the care of the child.

A MALADY AMONG HORSES.

Serious Outbreak at St. Louis of What is Supposed to be Spinal Meningitis.

Several cases of spinal meningitis have developed among the horses in livery stables at St. Louis. The stable-keepers and horse-men are very much worried about it, and at Vastine's stables on Lindell avenue, three deaths have occurred within two days. Reports of sickness among the horses at other stables lead to the conclusion that an epidemic is threatened by the veterinary surgeons.

Dr. Crowley, Jr., who examined the animals at Vastine's stable, said that the disease was undoubtedly meningitis. With the first attack the horse shakes his head, becomes uneasy, and at length violent fetid spasms and convulsions ensue and the animal dies in agony. He did not think it a contagious disease, and it could possibly be traced to the food and air. Superintendent Rowe, of the Lindell stables, said that the horses are suddenly attacked and there seems to be contraction of the muscles. They paw and bite and throw their heads from side to side. They suffer from great pain and their legs fall down and die. Some of the symptoms of lock-jaw are developed in the course of the disease. Larry Cavender's riding horse was seized with symptoms of the disease, and Captain Dozier, residing on School street, lost a horse from the same cause. A similar case was reported at Stab's stable, but this was not fatal. At Forest Park stables seventeen horses were taken sick, but the symptoms are pleuro-pneumonia. The car-stable managers have not reported any case of this kind, but there is much uneasiness manifested. Dr. James, who visited Vastine's stable, expresses the opinion that there is no danger of an epidemic.

THE TRANSPORTATION OF MAILS.

The Decision Arrived at by the Postmaster-General.

The postmaster-general has decided not to advertise for bids to enter into contracts for the transportation of foreign mails upon the mileage basis under the authority conferred by congress March 3, 1885. The subject has been under consideration by the cabinet for some time and the conclusion had been reached after the presentation by the postmaster-general of an exhaustive argument covering the whole matter. The postmaster-general holds that the money appropriated is general funds as a subsidy, because to subsidize is to pay the rate allowed in the contract would take over one million dollars, whereas only \$40,000 is appropriated. He thinks vessels continue to carry the mail at the present rate, and if they should refuse they could be compelled to do so as common carriers receiving just compensation. He is inclined to the opinion that the money appropriated should be returned to the treasury, and that the act of congress is the development of American steamship lines, the act does not propose to put money at the postmaster-general's disposal for any other purpose than carrying the mail. In his opinion it is better to remit the subject to congress for more explicit explanation than to attempt to distribute a large sum of public money not in fact required for the use for which it was appropriated, mostly because an act of congress gave the license.

The Port Townsend Argus says that a halibut was recently caught in Scow bay by an Indian, which weighed 202 pounds, and was six feet eight inches long, three feet ten inches wide and fourteen inches thick.

A kiss is a paroxysmal contact between the labial appendages attached to the superior and inferior maxillaries, respectively, of a man and woman or two women. The younger the parties are the more paroxysmal will be the paroxysm.

"Order slate" is the injudicious advice suspended before certain coal of fires.

Finding Drowned People.

"An Old Folk-Loreist" writes: The remarkable incident of the discovery of the body of a child drowned in the river Kennet, at Newbury, in 1767, by means of a two-penny loaf with a quantity of quicksilver put into it, was quoted by one of your contemporaries some twenty years ago, and then elicited many curious proofs of the existence of similar practices with analogous successful results, and with what is not always the case—a satisfactory explanation of the phenomenon. Sir James Alexander, in his account of Canada, after stating that the Indians believe that a drowned body may be discovered by floating a piece of cedar wood, which will stop and turn round over the exact spot, mentions an instance which occurred within his own knowledge, where the body of a person who was drowned by the upsetting of his boat near Cedar island "could not be discovered until this experiment was resorted to."

But something more remarkable was stated by an eminent clergyman, happily still living, who mentioned that, many years before, a boy who had lately come to Eton imprudently bathed in the Thames where it flows with great rapidity under "the playing fields," and was carried out of his depth and drowned. All efforts to recover the body failed till one of the masters threw a cricket-bat into the stream, which floated to a spot where it turned round in an eddy in a deep hole, under which the body was found. There were, I think, a few instances of this kind elicited by the same means.

Nothing could have been clearer than my meaning, or, as I think, more impressive than my manner; but one very "unfinished" damsel had the pertness to answer: "Mustn't we go back to them first?"

Hereupon there was an audible titter, which I pretended not to hear. Moreover, following the noble example set at the army examination by the Chief Commissioner himself, I ignored anything disrespectful in the question, and replied: "Yes, you must go back to your places, if you please. You ought not to have left them."

I may as well allow at once, however, that all my efforts to infuse a lofty official sense of duty into these willful maidens were utterly unsuccessful. The way in which they copied from one another was simply appalling. I did not look over their paper afterward but the family likeness between them must have been surprising.

When the paper-work was over, it appeared that no less than five of the eight young ladies wished to speak to me privately. I did not know whether to feel flattered or embarrassed by this desire. However, feeling bound to hear what a candidate had to say, I requested No. 1 to favor me with her communication. It was very lengthy, and was delivered with great volubility in an extraordinary high key. I will not attempt to reproduce it exactly—that would be quite beyond my powers; but it was to the general effect that she (the speaker) would have done her papers a great deal better—would, in fact, have triumphed over them completely—but for the circumstances that her maiden aunt, Miss Cox, who lived at No. 5 Laburnum Villas, Bermodesey, and had brought her up since the death of her poor father, of typhoid fever in the year 1867, was unfortunately deaf, though otherwise highly talented and accomplished, and that in consequence Miss Tibbits (she had at the very beginning utterly refused to yield to my entreaty and speak of herself as a number, but had persisted in introducing herself as Miss Tibbits) had not derived all the advantages from her aunt's instruction which she would most certainly have derived under different circumstances. And she desired me, as the examiner, to take this into account, as was only fair and right, in looking over her papers.

By this time I had learnt the official formula for answering the questions of candidates. I consider that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it. I considered that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it. I considered that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it.

THE MARKETS.

Table with market prices for various goods like WHEAT, CORN, OATS, etc. in OMAHA, NEW YORK, and CHICAGO.

Table with market prices for various goods like FLOUR, CORN, OATS, etc. in NEW YORK and CHICAGO.

Table with market prices for various goods like WHEAT, CORN, OATS, etc. in KANSAS CITY.

The Port Townsend Argus says that a halibut was recently caught in Scow bay by an Indian, which weighed 202 pounds, and was six feet eight inches long, three feet ten inches wide and fourteen inches thick.

A kiss is a paroxysmal contact between the labial appendages attached to the superior and inferior maxillaries, respectively, of a man and woman or two women. The younger the parties are the more paroxysmal will be the paroxysm.

"Order slate" is the injudicious advice suspended before certain coal of fires.

Women as Candidates.

By a Civil-Service Examiner.

As I have mentioned the fair sex, I will add (under shelter of anonymity) that I did not at all like the task of examining them. I deeply regret to say it, but I certainly found them much more troublesome than the competitive males. It is very difficult to maintain discipline among them, or to arouse in them any keen sense of the virtue of scrupulousness. I shall never forget being intrusted with the examination of certain eight young ladies. The first thing that struck me was that they had evidently arrayed themselves in their most exaggerated costumes, no doubt with the view of insinuating themselves into the favor of their judges. Though somewhat nervous and jerky in manner it was clear that they fully meant to fascinate. Poor things! they little knew the iron sternness of the Department. It was with difficulty that I got them to sit down, and with still greater difficulty that I induced them not to crowd together. (I should mention that the room in which we were was furnished, not with isolated desks, but with the old-fashioned continuous desks and forms.) When I had distributed the papers and delivered a Smithsonian harangue on the necessity of silence and the enormity of copying, I resumed my own work. Almost immediately I became aware of a rustling sound, and, looking up, beheld, to my consternation, my eight fair proteges all close together like the colored beads upon a frame, taking sweet counsel on the subject of the paper.

"Ladies," I said sternly, "this will never do. I must ask you once for all to keep your places."

Nothing could have been clearer than my meaning, or, as I think, more impressive than my manner; but one very "unfinished" damsel had the pertness to answer: "Mustn't we go back to them first?"

Hereupon there was an audible titter, which I pretended not to hear. Moreover, following the noble example set at the army examination by the Chief Commissioner himself, I ignored anything disrespectful in the question, and replied: "Yes, you must go back to your places, if you please. You ought not to have left them."

I may as well allow at once, however, that all my efforts to infuse a lofty official sense of duty into these willful maidens were utterly unsuccessful. The way in which they copied from one another was simply appalling. I did not look over their paper afterward but the family likeness between them must have been surprising.

When the paper-work was over, it appeared that no less than five of the eight young ladies wished to speak to me privately. I did not know whether to feel flattered or embarrassed by this desire. However, feeling bound to hear what a candidate had to say, I requested No. 1 to favor me with her communication. It was very lengthy, and was delivered with great volubility in an extraordinary high key. I will not attempt to reproduce it exactly—that would be quite beyond my powers; but it was to the general effect that she (the speaker) would have done her papers a great deal better—would, in fact, have triumphed over them completely—but for the circumstances that her maiden aunt, Miss Cox, who lived at No. 5 Laburnum Villas, Bermodesey, and had brought her up since the death of her poor father, of typhoid fever in the year 1867, was unfortunately deaf, though otherwise highly talented and accomplished, and that in consequence Miss Tibbits (she had at the very beginning utterly refused to yield to my entreaty and speak of herself as a number, but had persisted in introducing herself as Miss Tibbits) had not derived all the advantages from her aunt's instruction which she would most certainly have derived under different circumstances. And she desired me, as the examiner, to take this into account, as was only fair and right, in looking over her papers.

By this time I had learnt the official formula for answering the questions of candidates. I consider that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it. I considered that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it. I considered that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it.

When the paper-work was over, it appeared that no less than five of the eight young ladies wished to speak to me privately. I did not know whether to feel flattered or embarrassed by this desire. However, feeling bound to hear what a candidate had to say, I requested No. 1 to favor me with her communication. It was very lengthy, and was delivered with great volubility in an extraordinary high key. I will not attempt to reproduce it exactly—that would be quite beyond my powers; but it was to the general effect that she (the speaker) would have done her papers a great deal better—would, in fact, have triumphed over them completely—but for the circumstances that her maiden aunt, Miss Cox, who lived at No. 5 Laburnum Villas, Bermodesey, and had brought her up since the death of her poor father, of typhoid fever in the year 1867, was unfortunately deaf, though otherwise highly talented and accomplished, and that in consequence Miss Tibbits (she had at the very beginning utterly refused to yield to my entreaty and speak of herself as a number, but had persisted in introducing herself as Miss Tibbits) had not derived all the advantages from her aunt's instruction which she would most certainly have derived under different circumstances. And she desired me, as the examiner, to take this into account, as was only fair and right, in looking over her papers.

By this time I had learnt the official formula for answering the questions of candidates. I consider that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it. I considered that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it. I considered that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it.

When the paper-work was over, it appeared that no less than five of the eight young ladies wished to speak to me privately. I did not know whether to feel flattered or embarrassed by this desire. However, feeling bound to hear what a candidate had to say, I requested No. 1 to favor me with her communication. It was very lengthy, and was delivered with great volubility in an extraordinary high key. I will not attempt to reproduce it exactly—that would be quite beyond my powers; but it was to the general effect that she (the speaker) would have done her papers a great deal better—would, in fact, have triumphed over them completely—but for the circumstances that her maiden aunt, Miss Cox, who lived at No. 5 Laburnum Villas, Bermodesey, and had brought her up since the death of her poor father, of typhoid fever in the year 1867, was unfortunately deaf, though otherwise highly talented and accomplished, and that in consequence Miss Tibbits (she had at the very beginning utterly refused to yield to my entreaty and speak of herself as a number, but had persisted in introducing herself as Miss Tibbits) had not derived all the advantages from her aunt's instruction which she would most certainly have derived under different circumstances. And she desired me, as the examiner, to take this into account, as was only fair and right, in looking over her papers.

By this time I had learnt the official formula for answering the questions of candidates. I consider that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it. I considered that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it. I considered that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it.

When the paper-work was over, it appeared that no less than five of the eight young ladies wished to speak to me privately. I did not know whether to feel flattered or embarrassed by this desire. However, feeling bound to hear what a candidate had to say, I requested No. 1 to favor me with her communication. It was very lengthy, and was delivered with great volubility in an extraordinary high key. I will not attempt to reproduce it exactly—that would be quite beyond my powers; but it was to the general effect that she (the speaker) would have done her papers a great deal better—would, in fact, have triumphed over them completely—but for the circumstances that her maiden aunt, Miss Cox, who lived at No. 5 Laburnum Villas, Bermodesey, and had brought her up since the death of her poor father, of typhoid fever in the year 1867, was unfortunately deaf, though otherwise highly talented and accomplished, and that in consequence Miss Tibbits (she had at the very beginning utterly refused to yield to my entreaty and speak of herself as a number, but had persisted in introducing herself as Miss Tibbits) had not derived all the advantages from her aunt's instruction which she would most certainly have derived under different circumstances. And she desired me, as the examiner, to take this into account, as was only fair and right, in looking over her papers.

By this time I had learnt the official formula for answering the questions of candidates. I consider that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it. I considered that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it. I considered that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it.

When the paper-work was over, it appeared that no less than five of the eight young ladies wished to speak to me privately. I did not know whether to feel flattered or embarrassed by this desire. However, feeling bound to hear what a candidate had to say, I requested No. 1 to favor me with her communication. It was very lengthy, and was delivered with great volubility in an extraordinary high key. I will not attempt to reproduce it exactly—that would be quite beyond my powers; but it was to the general effect that she (the speaker) would have done her papers a great deal better—would, in fact, have triumphed over them completely—but for the circumstances that her maiden aunt, Miss Cox, who lived at No. 5 Laburnum Villas, Bermodesey, and had brought her up since the death of her poor father, of typhoid fever in the year 1867, was unfortunately deaf, though otherwise highly talented and accomplished, and that in consequence Miss Tibbits (she had at the very beginning utterly refused to yield to my entreaty and speak of herself as a number, but had persisted in introducing herself as Miss Tibbits) had not derived all the advantages from her aunt's instruction which she would most certainly have derived under different circumstances. And she desired me, as the examiner, to take this into account, as was only fair and right, in looking over her papers.

By this time I had learnt the official formula for answering the questions of candidates. I consider that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it. I considered that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it. I considered that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it.

When the paper-work was over, it appeared that no less than five of the eight young ladies wished to speak to me privately. I did not know whether to feel flattered or embarrassed by this desire. However, feeling bound to hear what a candidate had to say, I requested No. 1 to favor me with her communication. It was very lengthy, and was delivered with great volubility in an extraordinary high key. I will not attempt to reproduce it exactly—that would be quite beyond my powers; but it was to the general effect that she (the speaker) would have done her papers a great deal better—would, in fact, have triumphed over them completely—but for the circumstances that her maiden aunt, Miss Cox, who lived at No. 5 Laburnum Villas, Bermodesey, and had brought her up since the death of her poor father, of typhoid fever in the year 1867, was unfortunately deaf, though otherwise highly talented and accomplished, and that in consequence Miss Tibbits (she had at the very beginning utterly refused to yield to my entreaty and speak of herself as a number, but had persisted in introducing herself as Miss Tibbits) had not derived all the advantages from her aunt's instruction which she would most certainly have derived under different circumstances. And she desired me, as the examiner, to take this into account, as was only fair and right, in looking over her papers.

By this time I had learnt the official formula for answering the questions of candidates. I consider that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it. I considered that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it. I considered that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it.

When the paper-work was over, it appeared that no less than five of the eight young ladies wished to speak to me privately. I did not know whether to feel flattered or embarrassed by this desire. However, feeling bound to hear what a candidate had to say, I requested No. 1 to favor me with her communication. It was very lengthy, and was delivered with great volubility in an extraordinary high key. I will not attempt to reproduce it exactly—that would be quite beyond my powers; but it was to the general effect that she (the speaker) would have done her papers a great deal better—would, in fact, have triumphed over them completely—but for the circumstances that her maiden aunt, Miss Cox, who lived at No. 5 Laburnum Villas, Bermodesey, and had brought her up since the death of her poor father, of typhoid fever in the year 1867, was unfortunately deaf, though otherwise highly talented and accomplished, and that in consequence Miss Tibbits (she had at the very beginning utterly refused to yield to my entreaty and speak of herself as a number, but had persisted in introducing herself as Miss Tibbits) had not derived all the advantages from her aunt's instruction which she would most certainly have derived under different circumstances. And she desired me, as the examiner, to take this into account, as was only fair and right, in looking over her papers.

By this time I had learnt the official formula for answering the questions of candidates. I consider that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it. I considered that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it. I considered that, as a piece of good luck, I had just discovered it.

When the paper-work was over, it appeared that no less than five of the eight young ladies wished to speak to me privately. I did not know whether to feel flattered or embarrassed by this desire. However, feeling bound to hear what a candidate had to say, I requested No. 1 to favor me with her communication. It was very lengthy, and was delivered with great volubility in an extraordinary high key. I will not attempt to reproduce it exactly—that would be quite beyond my powers; but it was to the general effect that she (the speaker) would have done her papers a great deal better—would, in fact, have triumphed over them completely—but for the circumstances that her maiden aunt, Miss Cox, who lived at No. 5 Laburnum Villas, Bermodesey, and had brought her up since the death of her poor father, of typhoid fever in the year 1867, was unfortunately deaf, though otherwise highly talented and accomplished, and that in consequence Miss Tibbits (she had at the very beginning utterly refused to yield to my entreaty and speak of herself as a number, but had persisted in introducing herself as Miss Tibbits) had not derived all the advantages from her aunt's instruction which she would most certainly have derived under different circumstances. And she desired me, as the examiner, to take this into account, as was only fair and right, in looking over her papers.

HER HUSBAND'S SECRET.

BY HELEN FORREST GRAVES.

Minna's room was not light at the best of times. Its one window, planted dormer-fashion in the roof, gave on the blank whitewashed side of an adjoining house, which towered up a story or so higher than its unpretentious neighbors.

But Minna—a personage who always made the best of things—had absolutely persuaded herself that this was the best light in the world for her oil-painting. "There are no bursts of sunshine or stray sunbeams to disturb the cool, clear atmosphere," said she. "Artists always prefer this sort of light."

For Minna Morton was a working-girl. Too delicate to stand behind the counter or superintend the busy loom, she yet endeavored to earn her own livelihood by means of an artist's palette and sheaf of brushes.

Her outfit had cost a considerable sum—there was no denying that; but Rosa Hale, who stitched kid gloves in a down town factory, had lent her the money for the purchase, and little Bess Beaton, the landlady's daughter, "sat" to her two hours every day after school quite satisfied with gingerbread nuts to munch and a battered rag doll, which had belonged to Minna's own younger days, to play with.

And Minna was young and hopeful, and in the far distance saw herself acquiring name and fortune by means of her beloved art.

This morning, however, the room seemed a degree gloomier than its usual wont; and when Minna arranged her canvas on the easel, a dim sort of misgiving crept across her heart.

It was a simple picture that she had painted—a little girl playing on a sun-flecked barn-floor, with a brood of chickens fluttering around her, and a stealthy cat advancing from beneath tangled masses of hay.

Yesterday the little girl had seemed animated with real, actual life; the hay had seemed almost to rustle in the wind; one could almost perceive the sinuous, gliding motion of the cat. But to-day it was as if a leaden spell had descended upon everything.

"Am I an artist?" Minna asked herself, "or am I not?"

Rosa Hale's step, coming softly down the stairs, aroused her from a disagreeable reverie.

She hurried to the door, with the almost invisible limp which had always haunted her since that unlucky fall of her childhood.

"Rosa," she said, "are you in a hurry? Do come in a moment!"

And Rosa came in, with her little brown bonnet neatly tied under her chin, and her lunch basket in her hand, on her way to the factory where "real imported kid gloves, fresh from Paris," were turned out by the dozen gross a day.

"What is it, Minna!" she asked, cheerfully.

"Look at this picture," said Minna, drawing her up in front of the easel.

"Well, I'm looking," said Rosa.

"What do you think of it?"

Rosa repeated, "Why, I think it is beautiful!"

"Oh, I know that!" impatiently cried Minna. "The bits of hay are painted to perfection, and the rat-holes in the barn-floor are copied exactly after that one in the corner of the cupboard, but all that isn't true art, Rosa. Does the child look as if she would speak to you?"

"The cheeks in her gingham apron are painted beautifully," said Rosa, timidly.

Minna frowned.

"But the cat?" said she. "Is it a live cat? Do you fancy you are going to see her spring?"

"No," unwillingly admitted Rosa. "It's a lovely cat, but it's only a picture of a cat! Minna—dear Minna, I haven't offended you, have I?"

"Oh, no!" said Minna, lightly. "But you have told me exactly what I wanted to know—what I was sure of myself. Good-by, Rosa!—and mind you don't bring me any more of those delicious little bouquets. They're lovely, but they cost five cents, and you haven't any five-cent pieces to throw away."

And so, with a loving kiss, she dismissed the pink-cheeked little factory-girl, who was always so kind to her; and then she sat down in the Upas shadow of the dismal whitewashed wall, and cried:

"I knew it all along," she declared. "You are a hideous little impostor!" (to the simpering figure in the foreground.) "And you?" (to the cat) "are simply a thing of wood. And I am not an artist at all! If—"

"Rat, rat, tat!" came a soft knock at the door.